

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 672)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 2x + 13 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-2) \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(13)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-2) \pm \sqrt{4 - 52}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-48}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-16 \cdot 3}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm 4\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$x = 1 \pm 2\sqrt{3}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-9 - 8i$ and $5 - 2i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (-9 - 8i) \cdot (5 - 2i) \\ & -45 + 18i - 40i + 16i^2 \\ & -45 + 18i - 40i - 16 \\ & -61 - 22i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 8x^2 + 9x - 18$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 3)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 8 & 9 & -18 \\ -3 & & -3 & -15 & 18 \\ \hline & 1 & 5 & -6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 3)(x^2 + 5x - 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 3)(x - 1)(x + 6)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 7) \cdot (x + 2)^2 \cdot (x - 2)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

